

most important of all the means which have yet been, or are likely to be discovered. The kinds of cerebral disease in which counter-irritation is beneficial, include, according to my experience, all those complaints which are accompanied by unusual stupor or diminished sensibility, excluding all affections attended by over-excitement, such as maniacal and hysterical diseases. In the latter, I believe all such measures to be for the most part highly injurious.

A case has lately occurred in my practice at the Bristol Infirmary which strongly exemplifies the efficacy of the treatment which I have recommended, and which I have fortunately an opportunity of bringing before the medical section in the most convincing way. A youth, about 18, came into the Infirmary labouring under complete amaurosis, which had been coming on gradually for a week or ten days before his admission. At that time it had become so complete that vision was entirely lost, and the pupils were totally insensible to light even when the rays of the sun were suffered to fall immediately into the open eyes. At first he was freely and repeatedly bled from the arm and temporal artery, had leeches applied to the scalp, blisters to the nape of the neck, and took calomel so as to render his gums sore. Finding that no effect whatever was produced by these measures, I gave up the expectation which I had at first entertained of his recovering sight, but was resolved to give the remedies a complete trial. I ordered him to be bled *ad deliquium*. This took place after a small quantity of blood had flowed from his arm while he was in an erect posture. After a few days, he was still perfectly dark; an incision was now made over the sagittal suture, from the forehead to the occiput. It was filled with peas. In three or four days, precisely at the time when suppuration began to take place, the patient declared that he perceived light, but was scarcely believed, since the pupils were still widely dilated, and quite insensible to a strong light. In the course of a few days it was quite evident that he saw—he could tell when two or three fingers were held up. For some weeks the iris was still quite irritable, though vision had become in a great degree restored.

The subsequent treatment of the case consisted chiefly in occasional leechings, purging, and low diet: when the issue healed, which was not till it had been kept open for some months, a seton in the neck was substituted: under this treatment the case has terminated in a complete recovery of the blessings of sight. I shall not detain the medical section longer upon this topic, but have procured the presence of the patient, and my gentleman who wishes to examine him, either as to the accuracy of what I have related, or to the degree of sufferings occasioned by the remedy, or to observe the slight vestiges which it has left, will have an opportunity.—*London Med. Gaz.*, Sept. 3, 1836.

15. *Nicotiana (Tobacco) in Scarlatina*. In an epidemic of scarlet fever, attacking children of all ages with great severity, and in which belladonna, hyoscyamus, prussic acid, musk, &c. were tried in vain, M. WOLFFSHEIM had recourse to nicotiana. He gave it in the shape of a powdered extract, in doses of from a quarter of a grain to two grains, three or four times a day, according to the age of the patient. In some cases where there was a slight arterial reaction, he added a little mercury, and golden sulphuret of antimony where there was difficulty of expectoration. The results were very satisfactory. Fifty patients under this treatment became convalescent in eight days; and no narcotism was experienced even by the youngest subjects. The digestive organs were undisturbed. M. Wolffsheim adds that his master, Himley, often employed the same remedy with success in epidemics.—*Ibid. and Wiss. Annal. d. ges. Heilk.*

16. *Nitrate of Silver an Antiphlogistic*.—Dr. Bournin, in an interesting article in the *Gazette Médicale de Marseille*, extols the remedial powers of the nitrate of silver in inflammation in general, and especially in that of the mucous membranes. Dr. B. resorted to this remedy in an epidemic typhus fever, (*follicular enteritis*), which prevailed at Marseilles, in September, 1835, with striking advantage. He used it as an injection, three to four grains of the salt, dissolved in six ounces of water, administered night and morning. Of more than fifty patients treated by this means, he states, that two only died; and that the post-mortem examination of these established two important facts—1st. That the remedy had not produced any irritation, superadded to the inflammation of the disease; but that many of

the ulcers were in progress of cicatrization. 2nd. That although administered exclusively per anum, the remedy had extended its action beyond the ileo-cæcal valve, and communicated to the inferior portion of the small intestine, the greyish colour observed over the whole extent of the mucous membrane of the large intestine. Dr. B. says it is an error, though a common one, to attribute to the nitrate of silver a local action, and as not exerting any influence beyond the surface with which it is placed in contact. Dr. B. recommends the crystallized salt to be employed as the purest. When given by the mouth, Dr. B. recommends the following formula:—*R. argent. nitrat. crystal. gr. vj; aq. puræ q. s. solve. et adde ad saturand. gum. tragacanth. vel amylin. M. fil. pilul. No. xij.* One to be taken every half hour until the desired number, as 4, or 8, &c. are taken.

17. *Case of Jaundice.—Vomiting.—Effects of Creosote.*—We formerly mentioned the high value attached by Dr. ELLIOTTSON to the creosote as an antiemetic remedy. The following case affords a striking instance illustrative of the powers of the article.

"Phyllis Mosely, æt. 66, was admitted into the North London Hospital July 23d, under the care of Dr. Elliottson. Has been unwell for four months past; her illness commenced with sickness, vomiting, and a constant prickling sensation of the whole surface of the body. She has had no medical advice. These symptoms continued at intervals, and about two months ago she first noticed a yellowness of the eyes, and, soon after, of the whole surface of the body. The appearance of the jaundice was not preceded by any other symptoms than those which had existed for some time previous; viz: vomiting, and the tingling sensation. From her own statement, she appears not to have had any symptoms of hepatitis at this time.

On the 14th instant she came under the care of Dr. Carswell, who gave her two grains of calomel, and three of compound powder of ipecacuanha every night, and 5ij of castor oil every morning; and ordered a blister to the epigastrium, to be dressed with savine ointment. She has received much benefit from this plan of treatment, the yellowness of the eye, &c., having been much decreased. Her gums are a little tender from the mercury; there is some tenderness of the right hypochondrium; she has had frequent rigors for a fortnight past. Bowels regular. Before she came to Dr. Carswell, her motions were clay-coloured, their colour is now more natural. Tongue a little furred and dry. Thirst; pulse moderate. Urine high-coloured. Face yellow, and the superficial vessels enlarged and reticulated, as they are usually seen in organic abdominal disease.

July 24. Cupped in the right side ten ounces—low diet.

26. The pain in the side relieved, there is now no tenderness of the hypochondrium, or epigastrium. Extremities cold. The sickness and vomiting continue at intervals, in the manner in which they commenced four months ago, without any abatement of their severity. One minim of creosote was ordered every two hours, and ten grains of the compound extract of colocynth every night.

29. There was no sickness after the first dose of the creosote. Skin warm and moist.

30. Still better, jaundice decreasing. Omit the creosote.

August 6. There has been no sickness or vomiting since the creosote, and she was so well on the 9th as to be discharged cured.

Dr. Elliottson in lecturing on this case, pointed particularly to the fact of the long continued vomiting being at once relieved by the creosote. Many persons had denied the efficacy of this medicine in cases of vomiting; but he considered that the cases in which those persons had employed the medicine were not proper ones—that inflammatory condition of the stomach was present—or that they had not given the medicine long enough, for in some cases it was necessary to give large doses, and continue them for some time. It had been said that creosote did not act better in these cases than other remedies for vomiting, such as hydrocyanic acid, &c., but his experience gave creosote the preference, the case above was one of the most striking instances of it, however, he had ever met with, the long continuance of the symptoms being its chief peculiarity."—*Lancet*, Aug. 20th, 1836.

18. *Chloride of Soda in Anconorrhæa.*—M. CHAILLY states that the liquid chlo-